In The Specification

Amend pages 4-9 of the Specification as follows.

Brief Description of the Drawing[[s]]:

The foregoing objects and advantages of the invention, as well as other objects and advantages, will become apparent from the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of the bag of the invention, shown being used as a warning flag on a long load;

~~**Fig. 2** is an exploded, fragmentary perspective view of a first form of storage bag according to the invention, showing the opening in the storage bag through which objects to be stored, such as tie-downs, are removed and replaced, with a plurality of tie-downs about to be placed through the opening;~~

~~**Fig. 3** is a front perspective view of the first form of storage bag according to the invention, shown in closed position ready for use;~~

~~**Fig. 4** is a fragmentary front perspective view of the bag of figures 2 and 3, showing how the header bar is applied to the bag in this form of the invention;~~

~~**Fig. 5** is a front perspective view of a second form of the storage bag according to the invention, with a handle attached to the header bar of the bag;~~

~~**Fig. 6** is an exploded perspective view of the header bar used in the form of the invention shown in figure 5;~~

~~Fig. 7 is an exploded perspective view of the bag and header bar of that form of invention shown in figure 5, illustrating how the header bar and bag are assembled together;~~

Fig. [[8]] 2 is [[an exploded]] a perspective view of ~~a third, and~~ the preferred[[,]] form of the invention.

Fig. [[9]] 3 is a front view in elevation of the header bar used in the preferred form of the invention ~~illustrated in figure 8~~;

Fig. [[10]] 4 is an end view in elevation of the header bar ~~shown in figure 9~~; and

Fig. [[11]] 5 is an exploded perspective view of the bag and header bar ~~of figures 8 through 10~~, showing how the header bar and bag are assembled ~~in this form of the invention~~.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment[[s]]:

Referring more particularly to the drawings, a first form of the invention is indicated generally [[at **10**]] in figures **1-[[3]] 5.** As shown in figure 1, the storage bag **11** is generally rectangularly shaped and is applied to the end of a load **L** to serve as a warning flag. The combined flag and storage bag has a size to render it readily visible, and preferably also has a highly visible color. A tie strap **12** may be secured to the flag for attaching it to the protruding end of the load **L** carried on a vehicle (not shown), and the rectangular, unfurled shape of the flag as seen in this figure is maintained by a rigid header bar **13** extending across the top of the bag.

The bag has a hollow interior for storage of small items, such as tie downs or bungee cords **[[C**,]] for use as needed.

With particular reference to figures 2-[[4]] 5, the combined flag and bag **11** may be made of a heavy duty, weather-resistant material such as nylon or the like, preferably coated on its inner surface with a water repellant material **15**.

~~In one specific construction of this form of the invention, the~~ The material is folded upon itself, with the water repellant lining on the inside, and ~~stitched~~ secured together at the free ends ~~along a line of stitching **16** spaced from the free ends~~ to a header bar **13**. (See figure [[2]] 5). ~~A heavy gauge band of material **17** is folded over the stitched together free ends and secured thereto by one or more lines of stitching **18** and a plurality of spaced grommets **19** so that a loop **20** is formed by the band at the top end of the combined flag and bag.~~ The elongate header bar **13** is ~~placed in this loop~~ positioned to retain the unfurled shape of the flag and bag as depicted in the drawings, and to serve as a means of attachment of a tie strap to secure the flag to a load and/or to serve as a carrying handle.

Strips of reflective material ~~**22**~~ **12** are stitched along opposite side edges of the folded material, together with side panels ~~**23**~~ **14**. The reflective material renders the flag more visible at night, and the side panels provide depth to the bag to facilitate storage of additional tie down cords therein.

A zipper ~~**24**~~ **17** is provided in one side of the bag, near the ~~stitched~~ top end **16**, to provide an access opening ~~**25**~~ **18** for placing small items, such as cords and the like ~~€~~ in the bag, and retrieving them therefrom.

The rigid header bar **13** in this form of the invention comprises an elongate ~~rod~~ member made of a suitable material, such as ABS plastic, for example, to render it resistant to the effects of water and ultraviolet radiation. ~~As depicted in figure 4, a pair of~~

~~openings 26 and 27 are formed through the looped band of material, whereby the end of the bag may be folded to expose one of the openings 26 or 27 for insertion and/or removal of the rod through the opening and into or from the looped end.~~

~~SECOND EMBODIMENT~~

~~In a second form of the invention as shown at 30 in figures 5-7, the connector bar comprises a generally flat, rectangularly shaped bar having a first, main body portion 31 of elongate, generally rectangular configuration with a depending flange 32 of shorter length than the main body portion. The bar may be made of any suitable material, such as ABS plastic, to render it resistant to the effects of water and ultraviolet radiation. A A longitudinally extending retaining channel 33 is formed in one face of the flange, and a~~ A pair of enlarged, generally cylindrically-shaped openings **[[34]]** 19 and **[[35]]** 20 are formed through the top edge of the bar, with clearance cut-outs **[[36]]** 21 and **[[37]]** 22 formed through the bar at the inner or lower ends of the hook-receiving openings. The ends **[[38]]** 23 of a cord **C** may be inserted downwardly through the openings and knots or other enlargements **[[39]]** 24 provided on the free ends within the cut-outs to retain the ends in place (see figure [[5]] 2), forming a handle. This handle may be used as a convenient means to carry the bag, and/or to support it from a hook or the like in a boat, for example.

A separate cord or cords may be wrapped around the load and hooked in the hook-receiving openings ~~40~~ 25, ~~41~~ 26 and ~~42~~ 27 formed at spaced locations along the bar to tie the bag to the end of a load to serve as a warning flag.

~~As secondary body portion 43 of elongate rectangular configuration is assembled to the flange 32 and has a longitudinally extending retaining channel 44 formed therein~~

for mating alignment with the channel **33** in the flange **32** of the main body portion. This secondary body portion is secured to the main body portion by interengagement of a plurality of pins **45** and openings **46** formed in the respective body portions. As seen in figure 7, each of the body portions has a plurality of pins and openings aligned along opposite sides of the channels.

The combined flag and bag **30** in this form of the invention may be made of any suitable material, such as that described in connection with the first form of the invention, and is also made by stitching together the free ends of a piece of material to form front and back panels, with side panels secured between the opposite sides of the front and back panels.

In this form of the invention, a heavy seam **51** is formed along the stitched-together free ends of the bag, and the main and secondary body portions of the headere bar are assembled on opposite sides of the stitched end of the flag, with the end seam **51** received in the retaining channel, and the pins on one body portion received in the aligned openings of the other body portion, securely clamping the flag between the body portions. The line of stitching **16** is positioned below the connector bar, and prevents the two sides of the combined flag and bag from being pulled apart in the area of the connector bar, which might otherwise cause the body portions of the connector bar to become separated.

As also seen in figure 7, holes **53** may be formed through the stitched-together end of the combined flag and bag, in alignment with the pins on the connector bar body portions, to receive the pins **45** on the header bar.

Suitable indicia **[[54]] 28**, such as a company logo, or the like may be placed on the [[connector]] header bar, if desired.

Rather than zipper **[[24]] 17**, strips of Velcro ® or the like (not shown) may be provided to close the access opening **[[25]] 18**.

~~**Third Embodiment**~~

~~A third and preferred embodiment of the invention is shown generally at **60** in figures 8-11. In this form of the invention, the~~ The header bar **13** comprises a one-piece member having an upper body portion **[[61]] 29** with [[a]] the plurality of elongate openings **[[62]] 25, [[63]] 26** and **[[64]] 27** formed transversely therethrough near the upper edge thereof, and [[a]] the pair of generally cylindrically shaped openings. **[[65]] 19** and **[[66]] 20** formed through the upper edge~~, similar to those described in the previous form of the invention~~. A relatively thin, rectangularly shaped fin or flange **[[67]] 30** depends from the upper portion, and as depicted in figure [[11]] 5, is secured between the upper ends of the bag by adhesive and/or stitching or other suitable means.

~~In this form of the invention, the~~ The bag is made of an open mesh PVC material, and is constructed by folding a rectangular sheet of the material so that the opposite side edges **[[68]] 31** and **[[69]] 32** are turned inwardly and stitched together, or fused together with heat, or otherwise suitably connected, and the free ends **[[70]] 33** and **[[71]] 34** of the material are then placed on opposite sides of the flange **[[67]] 30** and glued and/or stitched to the flange to secure the bag to the header bar. A reinforcing band of material **[[72]] 35**] and **[[73] 36** may be placed on the respective opposite sides of the upper end of the bag to reinforce the attachment to the header bar. When assembled, the stitched seams at the sides of the bag are not visible, thereby enhancing the appearance of the bag.

The open weave PVC material from which the bag is made renders it resistant to the effects of water and ultraviolet radiation, making it particularly suitable for use in a marine environment. Moreover, the open weave of the bag enables it to dry quickly, and it does not retain water when wet objects are placed in it.

An opening **[[74]]** **37** may be formed through the main body portion **[[61]]** **29** of the header bar for receipt of a nail or other fastener to secure the bag to a support surface. ~~Although not shown, a similar opening may be formed through the header bar in the previously described form of the invention.~~

Although this invention has been illustrated and described in detail herein, it is to be understood that various modifications and variations may be made in the construction without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is: